

well now be directed to this, amongst other circumstances of the Yukon rush. It is far more important than the music hall, on providing which the thoughts of several at least of Vancouver's leading commercial men and Board of Trade members seem for the nonce to be largely concentrated.

IMPERFECT ADVICE.

The British Columbia Review, of London, Eng., says, in an answer to a correspondent: "Both Victoria and Vancouver have a Board of Trade, who are endeavoring to capture the bulk of the Klondike outfitting trade, but prices on the Pacific coast are not as low as in Eastern cities." This would seem to suggest the greater advisability of Yukon outfitting in Eastern Canada—certainly mistaken counsel—for when the cost and trouble of conveying freight west are considered, so, too, the fact that Eastern outfitters have no such special experience in packing and putting up perishable wares for far northern prospecting, as have the traders of this coast. The balance of advantage assuredly lies with British Columbia points as centers of outfitting.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Mr. William Ogilvie, the noted Yukon surveyor, seems to be growing more conservative in his estimate of the immediate possibilities of the Yukon, if, as stated, he has recently publicly declared at Ottawa, that if 100,000 people make next spring for the Klondike, 85,000 will be disappointed. His Victoria lecture seems to imply a belief that the Yukon would find scope for 200,000. However the context of Mr. Ogilvie's remarks thereon gave perhaps an opening to harmonise, in large part, his former and more recent opinions, as in a portion of the Victoria lecture he spoke of the possible getting of \$100,000,000 of Yukon gold in the course of ten years and he very likely meant to suggest that in the same period 200,000 people might be employed in mining it and in providing for the various wants of a gold mining community. And as few voluntarily remain more than a year or two in the inclement Yukon, it might well take nearly 200,000 people to get it out—including of course the usual number of "returned empties."

Lieut.-Col. Domville, M. P., it seems—not being desirous of losing his seat and parliamentary salary—is intending to live in New Brunswick, attend long parliamentary sessions, visit the Klondike, and generally supervise mining and trading operations, certainly in the Yukon, perhaps also in West Kootenay. Altogether too large an order even for the gallant Colonel, who is evidently a "bit of a pluralist." Cecil Rhodes himself couldn't simultaneously command a militia regiment, attend parliament and live at distances of nearly 3,000 and 6,000 miles,

respectively, from centers at which he would be required to supervise the management of operations involving many thousands of pounds of English capital, proposed to be expended on exceptionally difficult and hazardous mining, transport and trading operations.

New Westminster should this spring find profitable opportunity in temporarily accommodating the travel overflow, which, making northward via Vancouver, will fail to find complete provision in the Terminal City. Then, too, there will in many cases be families of Yukon gold seekers needing residential accommodation on this Coast, and some of these New Westminster with its usually low rentals and cheap living facilities, should assuredly attract, if the people of the Royal City will only make known their advantages. Their city lies sufficiently near to Vancouver and there should be ample opportunity for both places in catering for the Yukon travelers.

At least one mining recorder declares himself to be largely interested in the ownership and management of mine properties in his own district, perhaps, however, acquired before his assumption of office. Obviously, if afterwards, such an official is permitted to engage largely in mining speculations in the territory over which he has registration powers, the way is open to the perpetration of gross abuses. There are many official positions, which in return for either salaries or honors conferred necessarily limit private opportunities, and a mining recordership should surely be out of these.

It is rather hard on Mr. S. Hunter, M. P. P., that the story of the Chinamen's requisition asking him to stand for Cariboo at the next election should be taken seriously. The Chinese are non-voters, and don't usually sign "round robins" in English. However, the story is a penalty which Mr. Hunter has of necessity to pay for his persistent advocacy of Chinese cheap labor, which would assuredly in any case cost him the loss of most of the white labor vote of Cariboo were he there to stand at the next election.

ANOTHER YUKON "FAKE" PROPOSAL.

An enterprising New Yorker hopes, it is said, by the aid of British Columbian capital to establish a bicycle tram line between the coast and Dawson City. The cars would, it is said, run along a single track built along the top of stumps with an overhead rail to steady the car. An amusing scheme certainly and fortunately, if dependent on British Columbia capitalists, not likely even to make a beginning of losing investors their money. The Province has far too little capital for legitimate venturing and few of its people are fools enough to go in for a tree-stump railroad proposition.